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77th District
state representative
ROGER B. MICHELE

State Budget

Below is a chart that shows the state dollars approved in the 2006-2007 state budget for the City of Bristol.

	FY 06-07
PILOT: State Owned Property	\$78,182
PILOT: Colleges & Hospitals	\$892,719
Pequot/Mohegan Aid	\$935,677
Town Aid Roads	\$359,536
Local Capital Improvement Program	\$494,243
Public School Transportation	\$685,191
Non-Public School Transportation	\$174,253
Adult Education	\$260,256
Educational Cost Sharing	\$35,390,494
Total State Aid	\$39,811,154

Bristol will receive an additional \$540,603 in state aid, due to a budget surplus!

Please contact me for your copy of:
2006 Acts Affecting Veterans,
Municipalities, Education, and/or
Seniors.

485 Farmington Avenue
Bristol, CT 06010
Home: (860) 582-6838
Capitol: (860) 240-8585

Please Keep in Touch

Legislative Office Building
Room 4053
Hartford, CT 06106-1591



Important Telephone Numbers



ConnPACE
1-800-423-5026

Medicare Hotline
1-800-633-4227

**CT Partnership for
Long-Term Care**
1-800-547-3443

**Elderly Services
Division of the
Department of Social
Services**
1-800-994-9422

**Medicare
Advocacy**
1-800-262-4414

**Connecticut Legal
Assistance**
1-800-413-7796

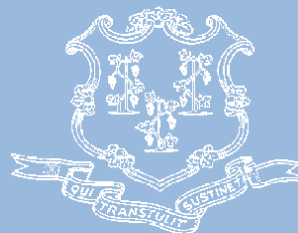
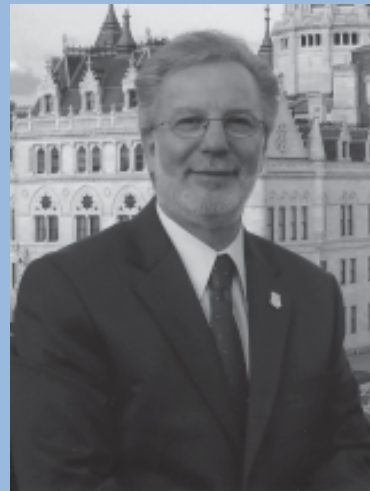
Consumer Protection
1-800-842-2649

**New Car
"Lemons"**
1-860-713-6120

**Unclaimed Property
Hotline**
1-800-833-7318

Tax Department
1-800-382-9463

**Veterans' Benefits
and Information**
1-800-827-1000



STATE REPRESENTATIVE ROGER B. MICHELE

77TH DISTRICT • BRISTOL

Capitol News
2006

Working for Bristol

Dear Friends:

The 2006 Session of the General Assembly has come to a close, and I would like to take this opportunity to share some of our accomplishments with you.

It was a productive session that put a long-term mass transit plan in place, in addition to placing an increased emphasis on job growth. We produced a balanced budget and deposited \$305.1 million in the Rainy Day Fund. The fund will total \$971 million, the highest level ever. Our cities and towns received a fair share of the surplus—\$33 million—for property tax relief, and the Teachers' Retirement Fund was fully funded for the next two years.

In this newsletter, I have highlighted various legislation that the General Assembly passed this year. Included are summaries of legislation affecting veterans and seniors, as well as news about tax relief.

Please remember that the most important and enjoyable aspect of my job is helping you. I am here to work for you, and I thank you for giving me the opportunity to represent you in the General Assembly. As always, if you have any questions or need additional information, feel free to contact me.

Warmest Regards,

MEGAN'S LAW

Megan's Law has been enhanced to:

- ✧ Increase the number of probation and parole officers who monitor sex offenders
- ✧ Improve the on-line registry by including the sex offender's most recent photo, contact information for a sex offender's parole and probation officers, and an improved description of the offense
- ✧ Create a Risk Assessment Team which will review the files of all offenders, identify the risk posed by each sex offender, and then make recommendations as to what steps should be taken to further protect the public from the offender
- ✧ Require registration of sex offenders before they are released from prison
- ✧ Improve name and address change notification procedures
- ✧ Provide increased funding for the evaluation of and treatment for abused children in an effort to minimize secondary trauma and successfully prosecute sex offenders

PROTECTING WORKING SENIORS

Today's seniors are living longer and working longer. Many want to work beyond retirement age, and many have to work because Social Security benefits are not enough. People who worked long and hard faced a dollar-for-dollar reduction in their Social Security benefits, if they became eligible for workers' compensation total disability benefits. We repealed the offset, thereby allowing injured workers to collect full workers' compensation benefits and Social Security.



VETERANS

WARTIME SERVICE MEDALS

Last year the legislature approved legislation which created a wartime service medal for all veterans who were residents of the state when called to active duty or residents at the time of receipt of the medal.



Eligible veterans may request awarding of the Wartime Service Medal by submitting an application form to the Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs, accompanied by a DD Form 214 or other documentation, to prove eligibility. Application forms and additional information are available from the department's website at www.ct.gov/ctva or by calling 1-866-928-8387, Extension 5915. Applications may also be obtained at the department's district and satellite offices, or by contacting me at 860-240-8585 or 860-582-6838.

The names and mailing addresses of all veterans who submit applications for the Wartime Service Medal will also be added to the Connecticut Service Member and Veteran Registry. The registry is used to notify veterans about benefits and other important service-related information. The information contained in the registry is not subject to public disclosure.



LOWERING THE FLAG

Although most of us would assume the national flag would be lowered any time the state flag is lowered following the death of a member of the armed forces in the line of duty, it turns out there was no state or federal law dictating such policy. As of October 1st, the policy will clearly state that the national flag will be flown at half-staff for the same period as the state flag following the death of a member of the armed forces on active duty.



PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR DISABLED VETERANS

After October 1st, veterans' disability payments will no longer count as income when determining eligibility for income-based property tax exemptions for veterans, the blind and people with total disabilities. Reservists or members of the CT National Guard, when performing duty under Title 32 of the United States Code, are now eligible for veterans' benefits. This is a small way to say "thank you" for the sacrifices you have made on our behalf.

INCOME TAX DEDUCTION FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHET

Taxpayers will now be able to deduct their contributions to the Connecticut Higher Education Trust (CHET) from their Connecticut adjusted gross income for state income tax purposes. **Single filers can deduct up to \$5,000, whereas joint filers can deduct \$10,000.** Any unused deductions can be carried forward for the following five years so long as each deduction does not exceed the annual maximums.



SALES TAX EXEMPTION ON ENERGY EFFICIENT PRODUCTS



The sales tax exemption on residential weatherization and energy efficient products and energy efficient heating equipment will once again be in effect from **June 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007.**

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

The maximum **property tax credit** on your state income tax is now **\$500**, instead of \$400.



MUNICIPAL TAX RELIEF

Due to a budget surplus, the General Assembly was able to return money to the municipalities this year. **Bristol will receive an extra \$540,603!**

